

REMARKS

Present Status of Application

The Office Action mailed January 06, 2003, required Election/Restrictions of the present invention under 35 U.S.C. 121, and requested election between Group I (claims 1-9) and Group II (claims 10-20).

In response thereto, Applicant respectfully selects Group I (claims 1-9) for further examination. Claims 10-20 have been withdrawn from consideration without prejudice or disclaimer. In light of the amendments, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

WU & CHEUNG, LLP

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By: 

Charles C.H. Wu, Esq.

REG. NO. 39,081

7700 IRVINE CENTER DRIVE, STE. 710  
IRVINE, CALIF. 92618-3043

TEL: 949-251-0111

FAX: 949-251-1588

E-MAIL: CCHWU @ EARTHLINK.NET

USPTO CUSTOMER NO.: 25864